THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TOWN OF MILLIS

FOR THE

FISCAL YEAR ENDING JANUARY 31, 1900.

MILFORD, MASS.:
G. M. BILLINGS, PRINTER, GAZETTE OFFICE.
1900.

TOWN OFFICERS 1899-1900.

TOWN CLERK.

LOUIS LACROIX.

SELECTMEN.

W. P. CLARK, M. C. ADAMS, J. H. SHANNON.

ASSESSORS.

J. M. CRANE, G. C. THRASHER, A. P. BLAKE.

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

T. HARDING, H. JONES, H. H. THORNE.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

E. L. RICHARDSON, TERM EXPIRES 1900.
F. E. COOK, TERM EXPIRES 1901.
E. F. RICHARDSON, TERM EXPIRES 1902.

TREASURER.

EVAN F. RICHARDSON.

COLLECTOR AND CONSTABLE.

J. CLARENCE THORNE.

TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC LIBRARY.

L. LACROIX, TERM EXPIRES 1900.
H. H. THORNE, TERM EXPIRES 1901.
REV. A. H. WHEELOCK, TERM EXPIRES 1902.

WATER COMMISSIONERS.

W. W. WHITING, TERM EXPIRES 1900.
C. LACROIX, TERM EXPIRES 1901.
J. S. ADAMS, TERM EXPIRES 1902.

PARK COMMISSIONERS.

L. LaCROIX, Term Expires 1900.
E. J. STEWART, Term Expires 1901.
A. L. WARE, Term Expires 1902.

AUDITOR.

EDMUND F. LOVELL.

Officers Appointed by the Selectmen.

FENCE VIEWERS.

JOHN M. CRANE, PUTNAM R. CLARK,
FRANCIS H. DANIELS.

FIRE ENGINEERS AND FOREST FIREWARDS.

CHAS. LaCROIX, FREDERICK SWARMAN,
WESLEY W. WHITING.

SPECIAL POLICE.

J. C. THORNE, F. T. TOUHEY.

SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

EVAN F. RICHARDSON.

PUBLIC WEIGHERS.

J. C. THORNE, E. J. KEITH, E. N. CLARK.

SURVEYORS OF WOOD AND LUMBER.

LEMUEL CLARK, GEO. C. THRASHER.

CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS.

HENRY E. HOSMER, PUTNAM CLARK,
FREDERICK SWARMAN.

POUND KEEPER AND FIELD DRIVER.

J. C. THORNE.

INSPECTOR OF CATTLE.

MOSES C. ADAMS.

UNDERTAKER.

EVAN F. RICHARDSON.

SUPERINTENDENT OF STREETS.

J. H. SHANNON.

THE RECORDS

OF THE

FIFTEENTH MUNICIPAL YEAR

ENDING JANUARY 31, 1900.

FIRST TOWN MEETING, ANNUAL MEETING, MARCH 6, 1899.

ARTICLE 1. To choose a moderator to preside in said meeting.

Henry E. Hosmer elected and qualified as moderator.

Albert J. Babcock and Albert R. Daniels were sworn as ballot clerks and tellers.

Voted that the polls do not close before two o'clock.

Voted that when this meeting adjourns, it be to March 20, at one o'clock in the afternoon.

ARTICLE 2. To choose a clerk, 3 selectmen, 3 overseers of the poor, 3 assessors, treasurer, collector of taxes, 2 constables, auditor, all for one year: 1 school committee, 1 trustee public library, 1 water commissioner, 1 park commissioner for three years each: also to vote "Yes" or "No" to the question, "Shall licenses for the sale of intoxicating liquors be granted in this town?" All of the above to be on one ballot; also to choose all other town officers. The polls will be open at eight o'clock and may be closed at 1.30 P. M.

Polls were open to receive votes for town officers at 8.15 A. M., and were closed at 2.10 P. M.

RESULT OF VOTE AS DECLARED.

Total number of ballots cast 112, including 2 women for school committee.

For Town Clerk (one year):—

Louis LaCroix,	54
Augustus L. Ware,	53
Blanks,	7

For Selectmen (one year):—

Moses C. Adams,	79
Willard P. Clark,	86
Louis LaCroix,	62
Jeremiah H. Shannon,	63
Charles LaCroix,	1
Blanks,	39

For Assessors (one year):—

John M. Crane,	61
Adin P. Blake,	88
Daniel B. Morrill,	59
George C. Thrasher,	85
James Townsend,	2
Blanks,	35

For Overseers of Poor (one year):—

Thomas Harding,	93
Horatio Jones,	89
Herbert H. Thorne,	93
Blanks,	55

For Treasurer (one year):—

Evan F. Richardson,	92
Blanks,	18

For Collector of Taxes (one year):—

J. Clarence Thorne,	96
Blanks,	14

For Constables (one year):—

John H. Ingraham,	82
J. Clarence Thorne,	88
E. J. Stewart,	1
Blanks,	49

For Auditor (one year):—

Edmund F. Lovell,	59
Lewis F. Rogers,	49
Blanks,	7

For Trustees of Library (three years):—

John M. Crane,	50
Albert H. Wheelock,	52
Blanks,	8

For School Committee (three years):—

Evan F. Richardson,	91
Blanks,	21

For Water Commissioner (three years):—

Joseph S. Adams,	95
Blanks,	15

For Park Commissioner (three years):—

Augustus L. Ware,	83
Blanks,	27

Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this town?

"Yes,"	24
"No,"	69
Blanks,	17

We, the subscribers, legal voters of the town of Millis, believing an error has been made in the counting of ballots for town clerk and auditor and board of selectmen, cast at the election of town officers on Monday, March 6, '99, inasmuch as the sum total declared by the moderator of said meeting is more than the total number of ballots cast, therefore we demand a public recount of said ballots, according to laws made and provided for that purpose.

Millis, Mass., March 8, 1899.

Augustus L. Ware,	John S. Folsom,	John Shea,
E. F. Richardson,	J. B. Daniels,	W. F. Collins,
Thomas Harding,	F. H. Holland,	F. H. Holland, Jr.
Ozro Morrill,	Curtis Holland,	E. LaCroix,
John M. Crane.		

Filed with the town clerk, March 8, 1899, at 5½ o'clock p. m.

Louis LaCroix, Town Clerk.

Millis, March 10, 1899.

To the Town Clerk of Millis.

I hereby certify that I have this day recounted the ballots cast at the annual meeting March 6, 1899, for town clerk, selectmen and auditor, and find the result as follows:—

For Town Clerk:—

Louis LaCroix,	54
Augustus L. Ware,	53
Blanks,	3

For Selectmen:—

Moses C. Adams,	79
Willard P. Clark,	86
Louis LaCroix,	62
Jeremiah H. Shannon,	63
Charles LaCroix,	1
Blanks,	39

For Auditor:—

Edmund F. Lovell,	60
Lewis F. Rogers,	44
Blanks,	6

HENRY E. HOSMER, Moderator.

ADJOURNED ANNUAL MEETING, MONDAY, MARCH 20, 1899.

Meeting called to order at 1 o'clock P. M. by the moderator.

ARTICLE 3. To hear and act upon the reports of the several town officers and committees.

Voted to consider reports separately.

Treasurer's report accepted.

Selectmen's report accepted.

Overseers of poor's report accepted.

Fire engineers' report accepted.

Cemetery commissioners' report accepted.

Collector's report accepted.

Assessors' report not accepted.

Water commissioners' report accepted.

School committee's report accepted.

Trustees of public library report accepted.

ARTICLE 4. To see whether the town will authorize the treasurer to borrow money in anticipation of taxes, the same to be paid from the tax of 1899.

Voted to authorize the treasurer with the approval of the selectmen to hire money in anticipation of taxes, the same to be paid from the taxes of 1899.

Article 5. To see what disposition the town will make of the money refunded by the county treasurer on account of dog licenses.

Voted to apply to uses of the public library.

Article 6. To see whether the town will appropriate money for support and maintenance of the public library.

On motion of E. J. Stewart, voted to dismiss.

Article 7. To see whether the town will appropriate money for expense of Memorial Day.

Voted to appropriate $50 to be expended under the direction of A. P. Blake, W. W. Whiting, J. W. Clark.

Article 8. To fix the rate of interest to be charged on unpaid taxes, as required by Article 3, Section 7 of the town by-laws.

Voted six per cent be charged on unpaid taxes.

Article 9. To see if the town will accept the list of jurors as presented by the selectmen.

Voted to accept the list of jurors as follows:—

John F. Clark, Charles F. Hood, Augustus L. Ware, Putnam Clark, Francis H. Daniels, Herbert H. Thorne, Curtis Holland, Evan F. Richardson, Edward J. Keith.

Article 10. To see whether the town will appoint a committee to consider the advisability of the town having an almshouse.

Voted to dismiss.

Article 11. To see if the town will vote to authorize the treasurer to pay bill of James Townsend.

Voted on motion of E. J. Stewart that the bill be paid from incidental account.

Article 12. To appropriate money for all necessary town expenses for the ensuing year.

Voted to appropriate:—

For interest	$1,900 00
Debt	1,000 00
Roads and bridges	1,000 00
Sidewalks	100 00
Incidental expenses	1,000 00
Poor department	800 00
Fire department	400 00
All school purposes	3,000 00
Sinking fund [to be taken from balance in hands of water commissioners]	650 00
Snow bills [to be taken from money in town treasury]	500 00

Article 13. To see if the town will authorize the park commissioners to have a survey made of the park, and bounds set, and appropriate money for the same.

On motion of E. F. Lovell, voted to dismiss the article.

Article 14. To see if the town will instruct its collector to collect poll taxes by the first of June.

On motion of George C. Thrasher, voted that the assessors be instructed to place the warrant for collection of taxes against those persons paying a poll tax only in the hands of the collector on or before July 1, and that he be instructed to collect them forthwith.

Article 15. To see if the town will build a new schoolhouse at the north end of the town, or build an addition to the Adams school, or act on any matter relating thereto.

Voted that a committee be chosen to inquire into the matter and report at some later meeting, and that the committee be the selectmen.

Article 16. To see if the town will authorize its school committee to form a school union with any other towns, for the purpose of hiring a superintendent of schools.

On motion of E. F. Richardson voted that the town do authorize its school committee to form a school union with any other towns for the purpose of hiring a superintendent of schools.

Article 17. To see if the town will appropriate money to carry out the provisions of the above articles 15 and 16.

Voted to appropriate $200 for salary of superintendent of schools.

Article 18. To grant moneys appropriated in the foregoing articles.

Voted to grant $9,450.

Article 19. To see if the town will accept a legacy bequeathed to the town in trust, by will of the late Mary B. Lovell, and determine who shall have custody of the same.

Voted that the town do accept the legacy bequeathed to the town in trust, by the late Mary B. Lovell, and that the selectmen be custodians of the same.

BEQUEST.

"I bequeath to the Town of Millis the sum of three hundred dollars, the income thereof, or so much of the same as may be necessary, to be expended annually in keeping my burial lot in the cemetery in order and repair, also that of Eleazer Daniels, deceased, where my sister, Elizabeth L. Daniels, was buried."

Adjourned.

Louis LaCroix,
Town Clerk.

Second Town Meeting, April 29, 1899.

Article 1. To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.

W. P. Clark elected, and qualified as moderator.

Article 2. To hear the report of the Selectmen in regard to rebuilding the Daniels schoolhouse or enlarging the Adams schoolhouse, or act on any matter relating thereto.

Selectmen by W. P. Clark reported in writing recommending a continuance of present plan of schools.

Report accepted.

Article 3. To see if the town will grant a sum of money for the support of the library, or authorize the treasurer to ad-

vance a certain sum to its trustees in anticipation of money to be refunded from the dog tax.

Voted that town treasurer be authorized to advance to the library trustees an amount not to exceed one hundred dollars, in anticipation to the moneys to be refunded by the county on account of dog licenses.

Article 4. To see if the town will authorize the treasurer, with the approval of a majority of the selectmen, to borrow money in anticipation of taxes, and to issue the notes of the town therefor.

Voted, that for the purpose of procuring a temporary loan to and for the use of the town of Millis, in anticipation of the taxes of the present municipal year, the town treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to borrow from time to time, with the approval of a majority of the selectmen, a sum or sums not exceeding in the aggregate eight thousand dollars, and to execute and deliver the note or notes of the town therefor, payable within one year from the time the loan is made. Any debt or debts incurred by a loan or loans to the town under this vote shall be paid from the said taxes of the present municipal year.

Article 5. To see if the town will grant money for the payment of the park loan note due Nov. 7, 1899, or act in any matter relating thereto.

Voted, 27 yes, 17 no, to grant $1000 to pay park loan note.

Article 6. To see if the town will grant money for the support of the schools for the ensuing year.

On motion of J. S. Folsom, voted that the school committee be authorized to use $200 appropriated at a previous meeting for superintendent's salary, and that $180.50 be now granted.

Adjourned.

Louis LaCroix, Town Clerk.

Third Town Meeting, August 19, 1899.

Article 1. To choose a moderator of said meeting.

Elected John M. Crane as moderator, and he qualified before the town clerk.

Article 2. To see if the town will extend the water main and hydrant service northerly on Exchange street far enough to protect all the buildings as far as, and including Oak Grove farm buildings (so called) or act in any matter relating thereto, as petitioned for by A. R. Daniels and others.

Voted that a committee be appointed to look into the whole question, and report at some adjourned meeting.

Voted unanimously that the water commissioners, the fire engineers and the selectmen be the committee.

Voted to adjourn to two weeks from today (Sept. 2) at 2 o'clock p. m.

Adjourned Meeting, September 2, 1899.

Meeting called to order by the town clerk at half past two o'clock, the moderator being absent.

Voted to elect moderator pro tem.

Osgood T. Dean was elected, and qualified as moderator pro tem.

Committee through W. W. Whiting reported, stating distances, cost of pipe, etc.

Voted: 18 yes, 13 no, that the town do lay an eight-inch pipe 1500 feet or to near the house of A. R. Daniels, and a six-inch pipe from that to Mr. Slayton's corner.

Voted: That it is the sense of this meeting that the selectmen call a meeting with suitable articles in the warrant to finish this business, and that the meeting be at 7.30 p. m.

Adjourned.

Louis LaCroix, Town Clerk.

Fourth Town Meeting, September 30, 1899.

Article 1. To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.

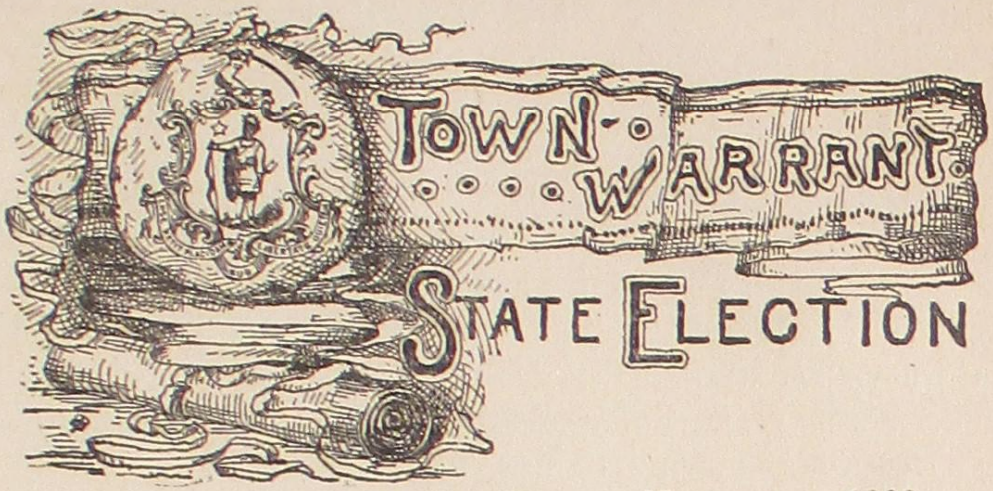
Osgood T. Dean was elected as moderator and qualified before the town clerk.

Article 2. To see if the town will borrow a sum of money sufficient to extend the water works as voted for at a meeting held on the second instant, and apppropriate the same for said purpose, or act in any matter relating to the construction of the same.

(A motion to appropriate money was not carried.)

Voted to adjourn.

Louis LaCroix, Town Clerk.



TUESDAY, THE SEVENTH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 1899,

Then and there to bring in their vote for governor, lieutenant-governor, secretary, treasurer, auditor, attorney-general, councillor, senator for second Norfolk senatorial district, representative to general court for ninth Norfolk representative district, one county commissioner for Norfolk county.

Result of vote as declared :—

Governor :—

W. Murray Crane of Boston, Republican,	55
Robert Treat Paine, jr., of Boston, Democratic,	13
Winfield P. Porter of Newburyport, Dem. Soc. Nom. Paper,	1
Blanks,	2

Lieutenant-Governor :—

John L. Bates of Boston, Republican,	55
John H. Mack of North Adams, Democratic,	12
James F. Stevens of Boston, Socialist Labor Party,	1
Blanks,	3

Secretary :—

Charles H. Bradley of Haverhill, Dem. Soc. Nom. Paper,	2
Henry Lloyd of Boston, Democratic,	10
Frank McDonald of Stoneham, Socialist Labor Party,	1
William M. Olin of Boston, Republican,	55
Blanks,	3

Treasurer:—

Edward S. Bradford of Springfield, Republican,	56
Joseph J. Flynn of Lawrence, Democratic,	8
Frederick A. Nagler of Springfield, Soc. Labor Party,	1
Blanks,	6

Auditor:—

Elbridge Gerry Brown of Brockton, Democratic,	8
Frank Albin Forsstrom of Worcester, Soc. Labor Party,	2
John W. Kimball of Fitchburg, Republican,	54
Franklin A. Palmer of Stockbridge, Prohibition,	2
Blanks,	5

Attorney-General:—

Addison W. Barr of Worcester, Dem. Soc. Nom. Paper,	1
Hosea M. Knowlton of New Bedford, Republican,	55
John H. Morrison of Lowell, Democratic,	7
Walter P. J. Skahan of New Bedford, Soc. Labor Party,	2
Blanks,	6

Councillor—Second District:—

William W. Davis of Boston, Republican,	56
Thomas J. A. Johnson of Boston, Democratic,	10
Blanks,	5

Senator—Second Norfolk District:—

Edward O. Cox of Stoughton, Democratic,	11
Frank A. Fales of Norwood, Republican,	55
Blanks,	5

Representative in General Court—Ninth Norfolk District:—

Stillman J. Spear of Medfield, Republican,	58
J. M. Crane,	1
Blanks,	12

County Commissioner—Norfolk:—

Charles C. Sanderson of Dedham, Democratic,	11
Edwin D. Wadsworth of Milton, Republican,	55
Blanks,	5

Result of the vote cast November 7, 1899, in the towns of Medfield, Needham, Dover, Wellesley and Millis for one representative to the general court for the 9th Norfolk representative district:—

Total number of ballots cast in the district, 836
Total number of blanks cast in the district, 141

	Stillman J. Spear, Medfield.	Scattering.	Blanks.
Medfield,	156		10
Needham,	234	6	53
Dover,	41		9
Wellesley,	197	2	57
Millis,	58	1	12
	686	9	141

Louis LaCroix,
Town Clerk.

Fifth Town Meeting, Thursday, January 25, 1900.

Article 1. To choose a moderator of said meeting.

J. S. Folsom elected and qualified as moderator.

Article 2. To see if the town will appropriate an additional sum of money for the support of poor, and instruct the treasurer to borrow the same.

Voted unanimously, that the town appropriate $200 for the support of the poor.

Voted unanimously, that the treasurer with the approval of the selectmen be authorized to borrow $200 for one year for the support of the poor, the same to be paid from the taxes of 1900.

Article 3. To see if the town will appropriate an additional sum of money to pay incidental expenses, and instruct the treasurer to borrow the same.

Voted, that the sum of $250 be appropriated for incidental expenses.

Voted unanimously, that the treasurer be authorized with the approval of the selectmen to borrow $250 for the incidental expenses of the town, the same to be paid from the taxes of 1900.

Article 4. To see if the town will amend the vote whereby it adopted the provisions of the Australian ballot (so-called) so as to include a tree warden in the list of officers to be elected by said ballot.

Voted, that the names of candidates for the office of tree warden be placed on the official ballot.

Adjourned.

Louis LaCroix,

Town Clerk.

VITAL STATISTICS.

EXTRACTS FROM LAWS OF 1897.—CHAPTER 444.

SECTION 3. Physicians and midwives shall, on or before the fifth day of each month, report to the clerk of each town or city a correct list of children born during the month next preceding.

SECTION 6. Parents shall within forty days after the birth of a child, give notice thereof, or cause such notice to be given to the clerk of the city or town in which such child is born.

Blanks can be obtained on application to the town clerk.

BIRTHS RECORDED IN MILLIS FOR YEAR ENDING JAN. 31, 1900.

DATE.	NAME.	PARENTS.
1899		
Jan. 21	Algeline Dorris Tingley	George C. and Elizabeth L. (Bullard).
Feb. 22	Daisy Frances Peckham	John L. and Mabel F. (Moody).
Feb. 27	Irena Frances Wiggin	Herbert and Mary J. (Tracy).
Mar. 27	Monica Wallace	William and Rose (McCreery).
Mar. 25	Violet Mae Simmons	George P. and Anna M. (Skarp).
April 30	Mary Hunt	Martin and Jennie (McDonald).
May 21	Ruth Wardwell Thrasher	George C. and Abbie A. (Stevens).
May 26	Agnes Murphy	Daniel and Kate (Driscoll).
June 14	Charles William Foster	William and Mary P. (Moarn).
June 21	Althea Mae Clark Alice Landon Clark	Stanley A. and Jennie M. (Couthill).
June 22	(Male) Cronan	John J. and Catherine (McCarthy).
July 1	Walter Brown	James C. and Mary A. (Connor).
July 3	Adelaide Clark Sawyer	Lauren E. and Lucy C. (Bullard).
July 23	Laura Elizabeth Olson	John P. and Maria C. (Hermod).
Aug. 6	Herbert Arthur Thorne	Herbert H. and May B. (Hamilton).
Aug. 18	Clarence Clark Thorne	J. Clarence and Betsey F. (Clark).
Sept. 11	Helen Dean	Osgood T. and Mary E. (Libby).
Sept. 25	Eva May Jillson	Ernest T. and Inez W. (Morrill).
Nov. 7	Dorothy Florence Chandler	William E. and Gertrude H. (Chandler).
Nov. 20	Winnifred Altha Holmes	John A. and Hattie M. (Stone).
Dec. 14	Marjory Richardson	Evan F. and Geneive F. (Howe).
Dec. 11	Rose Lydia Martinson	John and Annie M. (Seidenberg).
Dec. 27	Ruth Evelyn Cook	Frank E. and Jane A. (Cook).
Jan. 2, 1900	Flora Rose Bedard	Peter and Abbie P. (Beaudeau).

MARRIAGES RECORDED IN MILLIS FOR YEAR ENDING JAN. 31, 1900.

DATE.	NAMES.	RESIDENCE.	BY WHOM AND WHERE MARRIED.
1899			
March 1 .	Willis E. Kattall . . .	Millis . .	Rev. A. H. Wheelock, Millis.
	Annie M. Smith . . .	Malden . .	
April 6 .	John Tom Holmes . .	Norfolk . .	Rev. A. H. Wheelock, Millis.
	Isabel U. Torrey . . .	Norfolk . .	
April 29 .	Albert J. Corbett . . .	Millis . .	Rev. A. H. Wheelock, Millis.
	Mary R. Bullard Williams	Millis . .	
May 30 .	Leonard Ireland . . .	Millis . .	Rev. Edwin Bromley, Providence, R. I.
	Lena Brown	Millis . .	
Nov. 11 .	Austin A. Jones . . .	Norfolk . .	Rev. A. H. Wheelock, Millis.
	Daisy L. Sumner . . .	Norfolk . .	
Nov. 30 .	Frank E. Cassidy . . .	Millis . .	Rev. Daniel J. Keleher, Medway.
	Annie Ford	Millis . .	
1900			
Jan. 1 .	Joseph Cassidy . . .	Millis . .	Rev. D. J. Keleher, Medway.
	Agnes B. Doherty . .	Millis . .	

DEATHS RECORDED IN MILLIS FOR YEAR ENDING JANUARY 31, 1900.

DATE.	NAME.	AGE. Y.	M.	D.	PLACE OF BURIAL.
1899					
March 15 .	J. Lewis Snow . . .	51	4	1	Millis.
April 12 .	Henry Colgan . . .	48			Boston.
June 2 .	Louisa A. Foster . . .	89	11	13	Millis.
July 1 .	Mary A. Brown . . .	33	7	5	Millis.
July 27 .	Vincent J. Gannon . .	16	10	2	Medway.
July 31 .	Anna Paulina Martinson .	10		10	Millis.
Aug. 18 .	John Leo Smith . . .		8		Medway.
Sept. 7 .	G. Edmund Fuller . .	73	6	3	Millis.
Sept. 21 .	Walter R. Choate . .	1		21	Millis.
Oct. 10 .	Elisha A. Jones . . .	83	11	17	Millis.
Dec. 8 .	Susan M. Daniels . .	73	5	6	Millis.
Dec. 26 .	Timothy Pond . . .	75	2	26	Medway.
1900					
Jan. 8 .	Isaiah Cousins . . .	70	4	6	Millis.
Jan. 12 .	L. Amelia Clark . . .	57	6	28	Millis.
Jan. 14 .	George W. Bullen . .	70	1	10	Millis.

BURIALS RECORDED IN MILLIS.

DATE.	NAME.	AGE. Y.	M.	D.	PLACE OF DEATH.
1899					
March 22 .	Thaddeus M. Daniels . .	80	4	5	Sherborn.
Dec. 8 .	Caleb S. Williams . .	81	2	16	Natick.

I herewith submit my report of the receipts and expenditures of the town for the year ending January 31, 1900 :—

EVAN F. RICHARDSON, Treasurer,

In account with the TOWN OF MILLIS, MASS.

DR.

Balance on hand Feb. 1, 1899 . . .		$556 74
Poor Department, Town of Norfolk .	$ 10 27	
" Town of Kingston .	164 67	
" City of Newton .	88 70	
" City of Malden .	181 43	
" Town of Sherborn .	5 00	
" Town of Medfield .	28 50	
" State of Massachusetts	61 68	
		540 25
School Department, D. H. Whipple, sale of school supplies . . .	$ 12 07	
School Department, G. P. Simmons, sale of lumber	2 50	
School Department, City of Boston, tuition	165 80	
School Department, income state school fund	355 52	
		535 89
Court fines, Western Norfolk . . .		5 00
Amount carried forward,		$1,637 88

Amount brought forward,	$1,637 88
Slaughter license	1 00
Auctioneer's license	2 00
Millis Savings Bank, 16 per cent dividend	172 49
State of Massachusetts, corporation tax	246 07
" bank tax	232 40
" military aid	48 00
" state aid	366 00
Norfolk County dog tax	209 36
Holliston Savings Bank notes	5,000 00
Medway Savings Bank	1,450 00
Taxes, J. C. Thorne	11,615 85
J. C. Thorne, interest on taxes	6 68
Interest, American Loan and Trust Co.	16 93
	$21,004 66

Cr.

Selectmen's orders, highways	$ 999 09	
" sidewalks	100 00	
" incidentals	1,254 02	
" snow bills	408 56	
" state aid	394 00	
" military aid	120 00	
		$3,275 67
Overseers of poor, orders		1,507 85
Fire engineers' orders		373 01
School committee's orders		3,912 08
Trustees of public library, orders		209 36
Memorial Day committee		49 21
Tax deed, Sherman Park, W. P. Holcomb		95 75
State tax		390 00
County tax		619 05
State of Massachusetts, park loan and interest		1,077 50
" " interest on $10,000 loan		400 00
Interest on water bonds, State Street Safe Deposit Co.		1,200 00
Amount carried forward,		$13,109 48

Amount brought forward,	$13,109 48
Holliston Savings Bank, notes and interest .	5,114 32
Medway Savings Bank, notes and interest .	2,460 34
Balance on hand February 1, 1900 . .	320 52
	$21,004 66

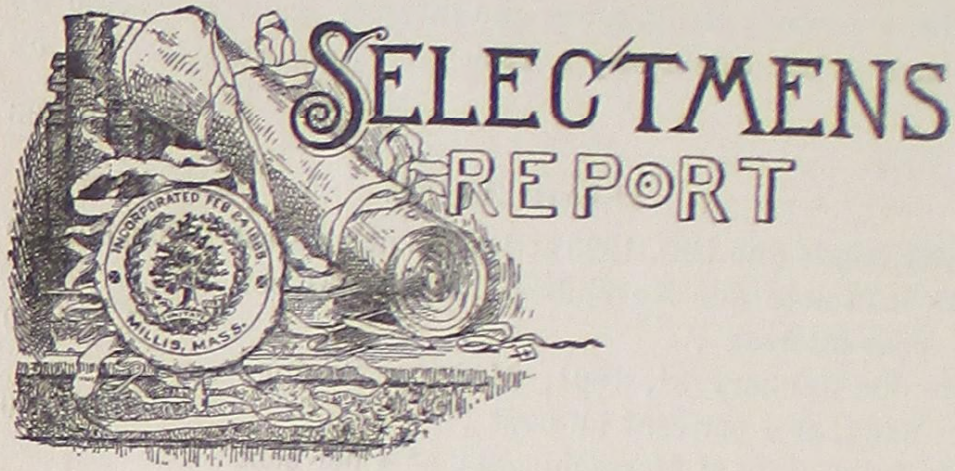
LIABILITIES.

Water bonds due Dec. 1925 at 4 per cent interest	$30,000 00
Park loan note due November 7, 1900 at 3⅞ per cent interest	1,000 00
Note due January 31, 1901, Medway Savings Bank, at 4 per cent interest . . .	450 00
Loan from State of Massachusetts, at 4 per cent interest due as follows :—	
November 1, 1900	$1,000 00
" 1, 1901	1,500 00
" 1, 1902	1,500 00
" 1, 1903	2,000 00
" 1, 1904	2,000 00
" 1, 1905	2,000 00

E. F. Richardson, Treasurer.

The accounts of the treasurer have been examined and found correct.

Edmund F. Lovell, Auditor.



The selectmen organized with W. P. Clark as chairman, M. C. Adams as clerk of the board, and J. H. Shannon as superintendent of streets.

The selectmen in presenting their annual report to the town do not think there is need of spending much in printer's ink for any remarks or suggestions that they can make. Matters the past year have gone in about the usual way with about the average amount of expenditures. Few things of interest have occurred with the exception of the electric railway, which is now in a good state of progress, and we think will be in operation in the spring or early summer, and be of great benefit to the town.

A few things we will speak of, however. We regret as much as any one that an accident happened last March on Union street, as is well known, and the town was sued for damages to the amount of four thousand dollars. We know that we have been criticised and perhaps blamed for our course in the matter, but after giving the subject a good deal of thought and examination and taking the advice of good lawyers, we were unanimously of the opinion that we had better not let the case go to court, and settled it by paying one hundred dollars, and costs of six dollars and eighty-five cents, exclusive of counsel fees of twenty dollars.

We were called upon to pay a lawyer's bill of one hundred dollars, which was unexpected to us. It seems that several of the officers of the town, ourselves among the number, have had interviews with the gentleman for the last two or three years, but we did not expect such a bill was to be presented. The claimant, however, was disposed to be lenient, and has accepted sixty dollars in full payment.

We think we have been paying pretty heavily for legal counsel for the last few years, and while it is necessary for town officers to take legal advice sometimes, we think they should not do so unnecessarily, and should settle for it at once.

We report as to guide-boards that they are maintained at all necessary places as far as we know, but that they need some repairs.

Our accounts, which follow, show for what we have spent the money placed in our hands, and we think further remarks unnecessary.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT.

Appropriation for roads and bridges . .		$1000 00
BRIDGES.		
George McQuestein, hard pine plank .	$62 97	
George McQuestein, hard pine plank .	30 66	
Freight on plank	8 87	
		$102 50
HIGHWAYS.		
North District.		
D. Dinneen, labor and teams . .	$29 58	
J. Dinneen, labor	19 83	
T. Dinneen, labor	11 58	
M. Murphy, labor and horse . .	25 33	
D. Murphy, jr., labor . . .	18 00	
Amounts carried forward,	$104 32	$102 50

Amounts brought forward,	$104 32	$102 50
J. Hutchins, labor	7 00	
L. Clark, labor and team and lumber .	38 67	
H. Caldwell, labor	7 83	
J. Seidenberg, labor . . .	15 00	
J. M. Crane, labor	7 50	
F. E. Cook, labor and teams . .	25 25	
F. E. Cook, 44 loads gravel . .	2 20	
A. Shotz, 50 loads gravel . . .	2 50	
J. L. Snow, labor	15 56	
Estate of J. L. Snow, labor . .	1 00	
A. R. Daniels, labor on bridge . .	3 50	
S. Huntley, labor	12 00	
E. Clark, labor	9 50	
F. Cassidy, labor	4 00	
B. W. Fuller, nails and spikes . .	75	
S. G. Clark, lumber . . .	5 32	
F. O. Phillips, labor . . .	3 90	
W. R. Shannon, labor . . .	1 66	
L. LaCroix, labor	2 95	
		270 41
South District.		
M. McGuire & Son, labor . . .	$19 83	
E. Ryan, labor and team, gravel . .	27 72	
P. Keefe, labor	4 66	
W. P. Clark, labor . . .	6 71	
F. H. Daniels, labor and team . .	15 10	
E. L. Richardson, labor and team .	49 10	
L. Simon, gravel	4 55	
J. F. Clark, labor	9 66	
J. C. Standley, labor and team . .	24 88	
D. McCarty, labor and team . .	19 55	
W. P. Clark, labor . . .	8 50	
T. Holmes, labor	3 83	
E. Brown, labor	3 33	
		197 42
Amount carried forward,		$570 33

Amount brought forward,		$570 33
Centre District.		
H. S. Roach, labor	$14 25	
T. Maloy, labor	13 50	
H. Caldwell, labor . . .	9 75	
J. McDonough, labor . . .	24 75	
A. A. Brown, labor . . .	8 25	
A. Obst, labor	7 50	
W. Foster, labor	3 00	
E. F. Richardson, labor and teams .	37 50	
J. C. Thorne, labor and teams . .	62 50	
P. R. Clark, labor	9 60	
A. Albee, cutting bushes . . .	15 66	
M. C. Adams, labor and team and bridges	14 53	
H. Frink, labor	10 50	
A. Albee, labor	8 25	
J. C. Thorne, labor and team . .	34 50	
E. F. Richardson, labor and team .	22 00	
S. Clark, labor and team . . .	22 00	
C. LaCroix, labor and team . .	18 00	
D. B. Morrill, labor and team . .	17 00	
L. LaCroix, trimming trees . .	2 40	
J. H. Shannon, repairs . . .	6 30	
N. White, gravel	8 40	
S. G. Clark, lumber for railing . .	13 99	
W. W. Whiting, posts and lumber .	22 83	
Natick Lumber Co. . . .	11 36	
E. M. Bent, drain pipe . . .	8 64	
	$426 96	
G. C. Thrasher, posts . . .	1 80	
		428 76
Total expenditures on highways . .		$999 09
SIDEWALKS.		
Appropriation		$100 00
D. Dinneen, labor . . .	$ 5 90	
Amount carried forward,	$ 5 90	

Amount brought forward,	$ 5 90	
F. Cassidy, labor	4 00	
M. Murphy, labor	1 50	
G. C. Thrasher, posts	1 00	
S. H. Roach, labor	12 75	
A. Albee, labor	15 00	
B. Clark, labor	4 50	
J. C. Thorne, labor	18 50	
C. LaCroix, labor	12 00	
W. W. Whiting, labor on railing	19 15	
E. F. Lovell, painting railing	4 00	
F. O. Phillips, gravel	1 70	
		$100 00

STATE AID.

E. M. Bullen	$72 00	
S. D. Bullen	48 00	
S. L. Fisher	48 00	
L. A. Foster	20 00	
G. E. Mason	56 00	
E. A. Hill	48 00	
G. E. Fuller	48 00	
E. M. Fuller	16 00	
J. McCarthy	12 00	
H. Peabody	18 00	
W. P. Frink	8 00	
		$394 00

MILITARY AID.

P. Higgins	$96 00	
Town of Medway, account of J. F. Stratton	24 00	
		$120 00

INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.

Appropriation	$1,250 00
Franklin district court	5 00
Auctioneer's license	2 00
Slaughter house license	1 00
	$1,258 00

Paid E. F. Richardson, salary treasurer	$100 00
J. M. Crane, assessor . . .	58 25
G. C. Thrasher, assessor . .	57 50
G. C. Thrasher, use of team . .	7 00
G. C. Thrasher, postage, stationery, expense to Dedham . .	5 78
A. P. Blake, assessor . .	39 50
Thomas Harding, overseer . .	20 00
Horatio Jones, overseer . .	15 00
H. H. Thorne, overseer . .	35 00
W. P. Clark, selectman . .	50 00
M. C. Adams, selectman . .	50 00
J. H. Shannon, selectman . .	50 00
Louis LaCroix, town clerk . .	25 00
Louis LaCroix, recording births, deaths, and marriages . .	16 30
Louis LaCroix, fees paid physicians and undertakers . . .	7 75
Louis LaCroix, express and office expenses	3 65
J. C. Thorne, constable and police .	40 00
Grange Hall association, rent .	50 00
G. M. Billings, printing town reports	135 30
C. G. Brackett, printing, five bills .	19 60
S. J. Spear, printing . . .	9 00
E. F. Lovell, auditor . . .	25 00
H. T. Richardson, settlement in Wallace case	126 85
H. T. Richardson, bill 1898 . .	63 38
H. T. Richardson, bill 1899 . .	30 00
James Townsend, electric committee	3 50
Court expense, two bills . .	20 62
G. G. Hoff, heating office and library	15 00
M. Frank Touhey, police . .	5 00
Court expense . . .	6 24
Framingham Printing Co., voting lists	8 00
Amount carried forward,	$1,098 22

Amount brought forward,	$1,098 22	
E. F. Richardson, postage, express, stationery, office expenses . .	17 55	
L. LaCroix, two Sundays at South End pond	2 00	
L. LaCroix, repairing scraper shed .	50	
M. C. Adams, postage, office expense	2 75	
S. H. Frink, care of town office .	13 00	
J. C. Thorne, collector . .	116 11	
W. M. Hoar, oil for town office .	91	
Herbert McIntosh . . .	3 00	
		$1,254 04

SNOW BILLS.

Appropriation		$400 00
W. Wallace	$ 5 25	
H. Wallace	3 50	
M. Ruytner	5 25	
D. Murphy, jr.	5 25	
George Gardner	3 00	
John Olsen	6 00	
Joe Obst	6 00	
Frank Radon	6 00	
John Radon	6 00	
Ed. Radon	4 88	
W. D. Rowell	4 50	
Thos. McMahan	1 50	
Thos. McMahan, jr.	6 00	
L. McDonough	6 30	
J. McDonough	6 00	
H. E. Hosmer	5 25	
O. L. Tebo	5 25	
H. Frink	8 63	
Charles Hood	7 50	
S. A. Clark	1 50	
J. C. Brown	75	
George P. Holbrook	4 00	
Amount carried forward,	$108 31	

Amount brought forward,	$108 31	
John Hutchins	1 50	
G. Woolvett	1 00	
C. LaCroix	4 00	
E. F. Richardson	7 50	
		$122 31
J. C. Thorne	$32 00	
Philip Cassidy	4 50	
C. Greenough	1 95	
J. Seidenbergh	15 00	
John Martinson	10 50	
Patrick Wayland	4 65	
H. Caldwell	2 62	
Fred Caldwell	2 62	
Everett Caldwell	2 62	
James Dinneen	6 00	
D. F. Dinneen	3 75	
A. Shotz	11 00	
T. H. Cassidy	12 00	
F. H. Cassidy	18 00	
G. C. Tingly	3 90	
James Spellman	4 50	
Estate of J. L. Snow . . .	17 25	
E. N. Clark	11 00	
D. E. Murphy	5 25	
D. Dinneen	10 50	
M. C. Adams	3 33	
G. C. Thrasher	1 50	
J. L. Peckham	2 67	
E. Harris	1 25	
J. Harris	66	
P. Keefe	3 16	
R. Harris	1 50	
		193 68
James O. Riley	$ 67	
Frank Rutyner & Son . . .	7 25	
Amounts carried forward,	$7 92	$315 99

Amount brought forward,	$1,098 22	
E. F. Richardson, postage, express, stationery, office expenses . .	17 55	
L. LaCroix, two Sundays at South End pond	2 00	
L. LaCroix, repairing scraper shed .	50	
M. C. Adams, postage, office expense	2 75	
S. H. Frink, care of town office .	13 00	
J. C. Thorne, collector . .	116 11	
W. M. Hoar, oil for town office .	91	
Herbert McIntosh . . .	3 00	
		$1,254 04

SNOW BILLS.

Appropriation		$400 00
W. Wallace	$ 5 25	
H. Wallace	3 50	
M. Ruytner	5 25	
D. Murphy, jr.	5 25	
George Gardner	3 00	
John Olsen	6 00	
Joe Obst	6 00	
Frank Radon	6 00	
John Radon	6 00	
Ed. Radon	4 88	
W. D. Rowell	4 50	
Thos. McMahan	1 50	
Thos. McMahan, jr. . . .	6 00	
L. McDonough	6 30	
J. McDonough	6 00	
H. E. Hosmer	5 25	
O. L. Tebo	5 25	
H. Frink	8 63	
Charles Hood	7 50	
S. A. Clark	1 50	
J. C. Brown	75	
George P. Holbrook . . .	4 00	
Amount carried forward,	$108 31	

Amount brought forward,	$108 31	
John Hutchins	1 50	
G. Woolvett	1 00	
C. LaCroix	4 00	
E. F. Richardson	7 50	
		$122 31
J. C. Thorne	$32 00	
Philip Cassidy	4 50	
C. Greenough	1 95	
J. Seidenbergh	15 00	
John Martinson	10 50	
Patrick Wayland	4 65	
H. Caldwell	2 62	
Fred Caldwell	2 62	
Everett Caldwell	2 62	
James Dinneen	6 00	
D. F. Dinneen	3 75	
A. Shotz	11 00	
T. H. Cassidy	12 00	
F. H. Cassidy	18 00	
G. C. Tingly	3 90	
James Spellman	4 50	
Estate of J. L. Snow	17 25	
E. N. Clark	11 00	
D. E. Murphy	5 25	
D. Dinneen	10 50	
M. C. Adams	3 33	
G. C. Thrasher	1 50	
J. L. Peckham	2 67	
E. Harris	1 25	
J. Harris	66	
P. Keefe	3 16	
R. Harris	1 50	
		193 68
James O. Riley	$ 67	
Frank Rutyner & Son	7 25	
Amounts carried forward,	$7 92	$315 99

Amounts brought forward,	$ 7 92	$315 99
Edmund Ryan	3 33	
Walter Wright	3 67	
Arthur Parish	1 50	
Burton Parker	3 00	
Oliver Willard	4 50	
Lewis Stone	3 75	
E. N. Brown	3 00	
Michael McGuire	9 49	
J. C. Standley	2 66	
E. L. Richardson	6 06	
A. W. Blair	2 25	
L. F. Rogers	5 25	
Dennis McCarty	5 17	
Thorne Brothers, Sidewalks . .	10 50	
L. H. Demery	3 90	
F. H. Daniels	50	
Lem Clark	16 12	
		92 57
		$408 56

Respectfully submitted,

W. P. Clark,
M. C. Adams,
J. H. Shannon,
Selectmen of Millis.

LIST OF JURORS

To be Presented to the Town for Acceptance at the Annual Meeting March 5, 1900.

John F. Clark, straw worker,
Charles G. Brackett, clerk,
J. Warren Clark, farmer,
Albert J. Babcock, painter,
Ozro Morrill, farmer,
Irving R. Clark, farmer,
Jonathan C. Standley, farmer
Adin P. Blake, farmer,
Louis LaCroix, mechanic,
Henry E. Hosmer, carpenter,
Frank C. Esten, bootmaker,
J. Herbert Barker, farmer,
Frederick Swarman, retired merchant,
Walter H. Andrews, straw worker,
Wesley W. Whiting, carpenter.

W. P. Clark,
M. C. Adams,
J. H. Shannon,
Selectmen of Millis.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriation	$800 00	
Special appropriation	200 00	
Town of Kingston	165 67	
City of Newton	88 70	
City of Malden	181 43	
Town of Sherborn	5 00	
State	61 68	
Town of Medfield	28 50	
Town of Norfolk	10 27	
		$1,541 25
There is due from City of Malden	$ 11 50	
City of Newton	88 60	
Town of Kingston	14 11	
State	127 20	
		$241 41

EXPENDITURES.

T. G. WELCH AND FAMILY.

Paid J. C. Brown, milk	$16 70
R. A. Battelle, rent	48 00
Amount carried forward,	$64 70

Amount brought forward,	$64 70	
G. C. Thrasher, wood . .	18 00	
Thorne Bros., coal . . .	4 25	
B. W. Fuller, supplies . .	5 00	
		$91 95

MRS. JENNIE M. SAVAGE AND FAMILY.

Paid W. M. Hoar, groceries . .	$90 92	
R. A. Battelle, rent . . .	20 00	
G. C. Thrasher, wood . . .	10 75	
B. W. Fuller, supplies . .	12 76	
E. F. Richardson, milk . .	7 30	
Dr. Arthur Mitchell, medical attendance	5 75	
H. H. Thorne, supplies . .	40	
		147 88

MRS. L. A. CHADBOURNE (Malden).

Paid Thorne Bros., coal . . .	$31 18	
G. C. Thrasher, wood . .	6 00	
Cash	60 00	
		97 18

H. POLLARD AND FAMILY.

Paid Dr. Hamlin, medical attendance .	$8 50	
Thorne Bros., coal . . .	3 13	
		11 63

BERNARD GUEPPENER.

Paid E. F. Richardson, burial . . .		4 00

MRS. DELIA GUEPPENER.

Paid Thorne Bros., coal . . .	$ 3 13	
W. M. Hoar, groceries . .	15 00	
H. H. Thorne, supplies . .	1 20	
J. M. Herman & Co., rent . .	10 00	
W. S. Mitchell, rent . . .	12 00	
Dr. Hamlin, medical attendance .	6 00	
Slayton & Simpson . . .	5 00	
Cash	15 00	
		67 33
Amount carried forward,		$419 97

Amount brought forward,		$419 97
E. J. HARRIS AND FAMILY (Norfolk).		
Paid Andrew R. Jones, wood . .	$5 00	
E. J. Keith, groceries . .	5 27	
		10 27
SUSAN HALL (Newton).		
Paid George Morley, board . .	$78 20	
Dr. Arthur Mitchell, medical attendance	10 40	
		88 60
ELIZA DREW (Kingston).		
Paid S. H. Frink, board . . .	$104 23	
B. W. Fuller, clothing . .	5 26	
Cash	9 50	
		118 99
MARY A. SHUMWAY.		
Paid Mrs. Henry Crusar, board . .	$156 40	
Mrs. Henry Crusar, clothing .	1 00	
		157 40
ABIGAIL PARTRIDGE.		
Paid John A. Hutchins, board . . .		156 40
W. P. FRINK AND FAMILY.		
Paid Dr. Hamlin, medical attendance . .		41 50
JOHN SNOW AND FAMILY (Sherborn).		
Paid B. W. Fuller, groceries . . .		5 00
MR. AND MRS. GEORGE MORLEY.		
Paid Dr. Arthur Mitchell, medical attendance .		23 00
MARY WOODFINE AND CHILDREN (State).		
Paid E. J. Keith, groceries . . .	12 56	
A. W. Blair, supplies . . .	4 12	
Dr. Herbert McIntosh, medical attendance	56 00	
		72 68
LIZZIE M. ELWELL.		
Paid Westborough Insane Hospital . .		115 13
Auount carried forward,		$1,208 94

Amount brought forward,		$1,208 94
WILLIAM T. O'NEIL.		
Paid City of Boston, aid		45 00
MRS. RICHARD MCGRATH.		
Paid Town of Foxboro, aid . . .		7 75
MARTIN HUNT AND FAMILY (State).		
Paid R. A. Battelle, rent . . .	$11 00	
G. C. Thrasher, wood . . .	4 50	
B. W. Fuller, groceries . .	1 00	
		16 50
MICHAEL TONER AND FAMILY (Medfield).		
Paid Dr. Hamlin, medical attendance . .		28 50
GEORGE W. BULLEN (State.)		
Paid Walter T. Bates, nurse . .	$53 50	
Dr. Hamlin, medical attendance .	48 50	
E. M. Bullen, board of nurse . .	8 70	
		110 70
INCIDENTALS.		
Paid Thomas Harding, expenses . .	$1 78	
H. H. Thorne, expenses . .	1 02	
H. H. Thorne, supplies . .	4 25	
		7 05
TRAMP ACCOUNT.		
Paid Thomas Harding, care 743 tramps .	$68 90	
Thorne Bros., coal . . .	9 51	
G. C. Thrasher, wood . . .	3 00	
Thomas Harding, supplies . .	2 00	
		83 41
		$1,507 85

HERBERT H. THORNE,
THOMAS HARDING,
HORATIO JONES,
Overseers of the Poor.

Engineers Report of Fire Department

For the Year Ending January 31, 1900.

We would report that the fire apparatus in Millis and Rockville is in good condition except the hose, which is getting old, and would recommend the purchase of three hundred feet of new hose, and an appropriation of $500 for general expenses.

Fires During 1899.

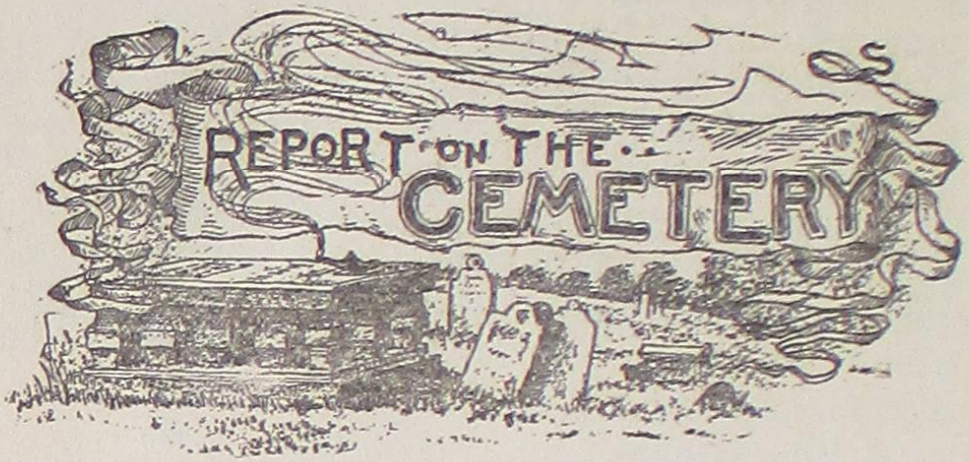
April 7.—Steel Edge (grass).
April 17.—Woods (Townsend's).
May 13.—Woods (H. Daniels).
June 18.—N. Y., N. H. & H. R. R. (car-house).
June 19.—L. McDonough (house).
August 2.—J. C. F. Slayton (stable).

Bills Approved in 1899.

G. C. Thrasher	$ 6 00
W. D. Rowell	1 50
W. D. Rowell	3 25
Charles LaCroix	6 00
G. G. Hoff	3 00
G. R. Hill	6 00
Amount carried forward,	$25 75

Amount brought forward,	$25 75	
Pay-roll, Millis company . . .	41 50	
Pay-roll, Rockville company . .	24 00	
F. Swarman	6 00	
J. C. Thorne	26 00	
Mrs. R. E. Waite, rent . . .	14 00	
W. P. Frink	10 00	
C. F. Hood	2 00	
Boston Woven Hose and Rubber Co. .	50	
Boston Woven Hose and Rubber Co. .	2 50	
Boston Woven Hose and Rubber Co. .	2 48	
E. A. Lord, insurance . . .	7 50	
Pay-roll, Millis company . . .	81 25	
E. LaCroix	2 00	
C. LaCroix	6 00	
Pay-roll, Rockville company . .	38 00	
L. E. Sawyer	10 00	
Mrs. R. E. Wait	14 00	
W. P. Frink	13 00	
W. M. Hoar	2 33	
G. G. Hoff	3 20	
W. W. Whiting	6 00	
E. A. Lord, insurance . . .	9 00	
J. C. Thorne	26 00	
		$373 01
Grant	.	$400 00
Expended	.	373 01
Unexpended balance . . .		$26 99

CHARLES LACROIX,
F. SWARMAN,
W. W. WHITING,
Fire Engineers.



For the Year Ending January 31, 1900.

RECEIPTS.

From W. P. Clark, the interest on Mary Adams fund	$29 50

EXPENDITURES.

Paid for labor:—		
May, H. E. Hosmer	$8 00	
May, Richard McGrath . . .	4 50	
Sept. 1, A. A. Albee	7 50	
Sept. 1, H. E. Hosmer . . .	9 50	
		$29 50

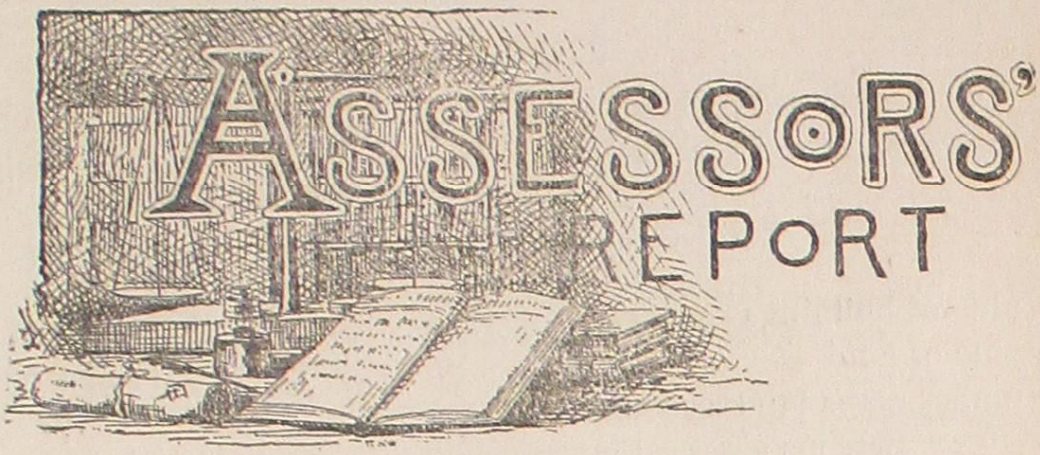
Money received for burial lot from Mr. Choate (one grave)	$1 00
Paid W. P. Clark for benefit of fund . . .	1 00

Markers for the graves of four soldiers (1775) have been placed the past year, viz., Deacon Asa Daniels, Mr. Moses Richardson, Mr. Stephen Clark, and Capt. Thomas Metcalf.

The drouth the past summer has killed many of the shrubs planted one year ago.

For the Commissioners,

H. E. HOSMER.



This has been an uneventful year for the board of assessors. There have been no material gains or losses in taxable property. There has been a general reduction made of about five per cent on the total valuation, from last year. Below will be found a list of statistics which should be of interest to tax-payers.

TOWN APPROPRIATIONS.

Schools	$3,380 50
Roads, bridges and sidewalks	1,100 00
Incidentals	1,000 00
Poor Department	800 00
Fire Department	400 00
Interest	1,900 00
Snow	400 00
Memorial Day	50 00
Debt	2,000 00
Total	$11,030 50

GENERAL STATEMENT.

Town grant	$11,030 50
State tax	$390 00
County tax	$619 05
Abatements, 1898	$125 00
Overlay	$25 03

Rate of taxation per $1,000	$15 50
Estimated returns from bank and corporation tax	$477 55

Valuation.

Value of assessed personal estate	$ 72,105 00
Value of assessed real estate	651,285 00
Total valuation	$723,390 00
Value of buildings	$439,895 00
Value of land	$211,390 00
Number acres land assessed	7,034
" persons assessed on property	389
" persons assessed on poll only	103
" polls	256
" horses	203
" neat cattle	526
" sheep	2
" swine	35
" fowls	1851
" dwellings	241

Assets of Town.

Two schoolhouses	$ 9,000 00
Public library	3,500 00
Fire apparatus	2,500 00
Public park	4,000 00
Trust funds	1,000 00
Schoolhouse lots	1,600 00
Water works	30,000 00
Sinking fund	2,600 00
Electric lighting station	2,500 00
Other assets	2,000 00
Total	$58,700 00

LIABILITIES.

Park loan	$ 2,000 00
Bonded debt	30,000 00
Other liabilities	10,000 00
Total	$42,000 00

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN M. CRANE,
GEORGE C. THRASHER,
ADIN P. BLAKE,
Assessors of Millis.

Millis, Feb. 1, 1900.

COLLECTOR'S REPORT.

1899-1900.

DR.

To warrant, 1899 . . .	$11,726 05	
Interest	6 68	
		$11,732 73

CR.

By amount paid treasurer . .	$11,622 53	
Abatements, 1899 . . .	110 20	
		$11,732 73

Respectfully submitted,

J. CLARENCE THORNE,
Collector.

Millis, Feb. 3, 1900.

REPORT OF THE WATER COMMISSIONERS.

To the Citizens of the Town of Millis.

At the last annual town meeting it was voted to take the sum of $650 from the surplus in the hands of the water commissioners for the sinking fund. This was done accordingly.

The receiver of the Millis Savings Bank paid a dividend on the sinking fund deposited in that bank amounting to $105.04, making a total of $630.24 that has been paid; there was deposited in the bank $650, thus leaving a balance of $19.76.

Sinking fund appropriations for five years $650 each		$3,250 00
Investments:—		
Dedham Institution for Savings	$1,000 00	
Medway Savings Bank . . .	930 24	
Newton " . . .	1,000 00	
Natick " . . .	300 00	
Millis " . . .	19 76	
		$3,250 00

Although less coal has been used this year than formerly, yet it will be seen by the financial statement that it has cost more this year than last; this is explained by the fact that soft coal is costing double what it did one year ago. In previous years the commissioners have bought each winter's supply of coal before the advance in price, but owing to the fact that the surplus money had been taken for the sinking fund the commissioners had only money enough to buy a small lot at a time, and it will cost the town more than one hundred dollars more than it would have had they had the money to buy in the fall.

Respectfully submitted,

J. S. Adams,
Charles LaCroix,
W. W. Whiting,
Water Commissioners of Millis.

Financial Statement.

W. W. Whiting, Water Register,

In account with the Town of Millis Water Department, for the year ending Jan. 31, 1900.

Dr.

Balance Jan. 31, 1899	$863 06	
Water rents first quarter	269 50	
" second quarter	246 94	
" third "	339 78	
" fourth "	304 17	
J. S. Adams, 128 feet galvanized iron pipe	6 40	$2,029 85

Cr.

J. S. Adams, salary	$624 00
Walworth Mfg. Co., supplies	35 24
M. R. Warren, supplies	2 50
E. F. Lovell, labor	6 00
A. Albee, labor	3 00
Thorne Brothers, coal and carting	370 94
Express and freight	1 51
Water register, office expense	8 91
Boston Woven Hose & Rubber Co., supplies	7 38
James Heyson, painting smoke-stack	35 00
Hartford Steam Boiler Insurance Co., insurance	14 58
Sinking fund deposited	650 00
G. F. Holbrook, labor	2 00
W. Whiting, labor and supplies	2 50
M. Splaine, labor	1 50
W. M. Hoar, supplies	78
W. S. Mitchell, supplies	6 23
Dean Steam Pump Co., supplies	4 87
Kimball, Harrington & Osborne, supplies	5 00
Chapman Valve Co., supplies	3 40
B. W. Fuller, supplies	5 25
Amount carried forward,	$1,790 59

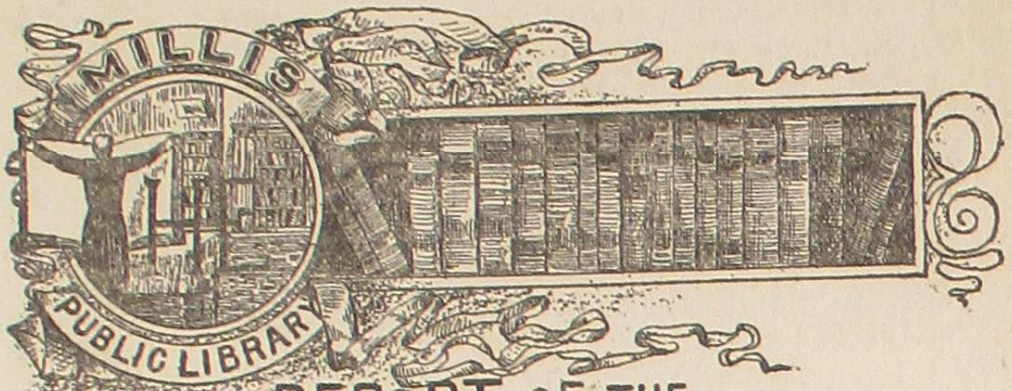
Amount brought forward,	$1,790 59	
W. W. Whiting, salary	50 00	
C. F. Hood, labor	1 00	
E. LaCroix, labor and supplies	5 20	
J. C. Thorne, labor	3 00	
W. H. Thorne, labor	5 00	
		$1,854 79

RECAPITULATION.

Receipts		$2,029 85
Expenditures		1,854 79
Balance		$175 06
Deposit in Millis Savings Bank, unavailable	$ 21 69	
Cash on hand	153 37	
		$175 06

The accounts of the water register have been examined and found correct.

EDMUND F. LOVELL,
Auditor.



REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY TRUSTEES
1899.

RECEIPTS.

Balance from 1898 . . .	$ 10 60	
Fines and sales of catalogues . .	6 75	
Refunded dog licenses . . .	209 36	
		$226 71

EXPENDITURES.

Paid Mrs. A. Macdonough, librarian and expense	$51 20	
Library Bureau, supplies . .	19 50	
W. P. Clark, insurance . .	17 50	
C. G. Brackett, printing . .	4 25	
G. M. Billings, printing . .	1 00	
H. D. Noyes & Co., magazines .	20 30	
W. M. Hoar, kerosene . .	4 20	
Engineering Magazine . .	3 00	
Express and expense . .	1 00	
DeWolfe, Fiske & Co., books .	88 76	
Book-case	10 00	
Balance	6 00	
		$226 71

HERBERT H. THORNE,
Treasurer of Board of Trustees.

The library trustees submit the following list of books as their report for the year:—

Bailey, L. H. Garden making 710 B15
Bailey, L. H., editor. The principles of agriculture 630 B15
Baker, Ray Stannard. The boys' book of invention . . . . . j 600 B17
Barr, Amelia E. I, thou, and the other one: a love story B27-6
Barton, William E. When Boston braved the King: a story of tea party times . j B287
Bennett, Edmund H. The four gospels from a lawyer's standpoint 226 B43
Brady, Cyrus Townsend. For the freedom of the sea: a romance of the war of 1812 . . B75
Brown, Alice. Tiverton tales. [Short stories] . B798-1
Bullen, Frank T. The cruise of the Cachalot 910.4B873-1
The log of a sea-waif: being recollections of the first four years of my sea life . . . 910.4B873
Idyls of the sea 910.4B873-2
Burroughs, John. A year in the fields . . 814B94-2
Carruth, Frances Weston. Those Dale girls . C23
Catherwood, Mary Hartwell. Mackinac Lake stories C28-2
Churchill, Winston. Richard Carvel . . C475
Clarke, William Newton. What shall we think of Christianity? 239 C55
Connor, Ralph. The sky pilot: a tale of the foothills C765
Crockett, S. R. Kit Kennedy; country boy j C87-6
Dix, Beulah Marie. Soldier Rigdale: how he sailed in the Mayflower and how he served Miles Standish D64
Doyle, C. F. Dr. Taming of the jungle . . D772
DuChaillu, Paul. The land of the long night j 914.7 D85
Dunne, Peter. Mr. Dooley in the hearts of his countrymen 817 D92-1
Earle, Alice Morse. Child life in colonial days .973.2 Ea7-1
Fiske, John. Old Virginia and her neighbors, 2v. . 975F54
The Dutch and Quaker colonies in America, 2v. 973.2F54
Flynt, Josiah. Tramping with tramps: studies and sketches of vagabond life . . . 339F67
Ford, Paul Leicester. Janice Meredith: a story of the American Revolution . . . F75-1
Hall, Tom. The fun and fighting of the Rough Riders 973.8H14

Headlam, James Wycliffe. Bismarck and the founding of the German Empire . . 92B54-1
Higginson, Thomas Wentworth. Contemporaries 920H535
Hubert, Philip G. jr. Inventors . . . 920H86
Johnston, Mary. To have and to hold . . J645-1
King, F. H. The soil 631K58
Lodeman, E. G. The spraying of plants . . 632L82
Long, William J. The making of Zimri Bunker: a story of Nantucket in the early days . j L855
Lynde, Francis. The helpers . . . L988
McCarthy, Justin. Reminiscences, 2v. . . 920M12-1
MacManus, Seumas. Through the turf smoke: the love, lore and laughter of old Ireland . . M225
Major, Charles. When knighthood was in flower M284
Marlow, Sidney. Harry Ambler and how he saved the homestead . . . . j M344
Merriman, Henry Seaton. The sowers . . M55-1
Mitchell, Donald G. American lands and letters, 2v.
The Mayflower to Rip Van Winkle . . 810M69-1
Leatherstocking to Poe's Raven . . 810M69-2
Otis, James. The life savers: a story of the U. S. Life Saving service . . . j Ot41-1
Parker, Gilbert. The battle of the strong: a romance of two kingdoms . . . P223-1
Perry, Bliss. The powers at play. [Short stories] P424
Phillpotts, Eden. Children of the mist . . P54
Pool, Maria Louise. A widower and some spinsters. [Short stories] P78-3
Rowe, Stuart H. Ph D. The physical nature of the child and how to study it . . . 371R79
Sherwood, Margaret. Henry Worthington, idealist Sh54
Smith, F. Hopkinson. A day at Laguerre's, and other days 914.5Sm58-1
A gentleman vagabond, and some others. [Short stories] Sm58-4
Caleb West, master diver Sm58-1
Gondola days 914.5Sm58
Tom Grogan Sm58-2
The other fellow. [Short stories] . . Sm58-3
Well-worn roads of Spain, Holland and Italy 914.5Sm58-2
Tarkington, Booth. The gentleman from Indiana T17
Theal, George McCall. South Africa . . 968T34
Thompson, Ernest Seton. Wild animals I have known . . . . . j 590T37
Warner, Charles Dudley. A little journey in the world W24

The golden house. [Sequel to above.] . . W24-1
That fortune. [Sequel to above.] . . W24-2
Whiteing, Richard. No. 5 John street . . W586
Whitney, Mrs. A. D. T. Friendly letters to girl friends 170W61
Williams, Jesse Lynch. The stolen story, and other newspaper stories W675
Williamson, David, editor. William Ewart Gladstone, statesman and scholar . . . 92G45
Wing, Henry H. Milk and its products . . 637W72
VanDyke, Henry. Fisherman's luck and some other uncertain things 814V28-1
Little rivers: a book of essays in profitable idleness 814V28
Yechton, Barbara. A young savage . . Y35

All new books which are liable to be in special demand will hereafter be regarded as "seven day books" and "not renewable," until the special demand shall cease. This rule will also apply to the current magazines for a few weeks after they are permitted to go out. All such books and magazines will be suitably marked.

In addition to the above, only one "seven day" book or magazine will be allowed to one person at the same time. Thus the new books will be more widely and quickly circulated.

The above rules involve the regular fines for any "seven day" book or magazine kept over the specified time.

Respectfully submitted,

A. H. Wheelock,
H. H. Thorne,
Louis LaCroix,

Trustees of the Public Library.

REPORT OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

Financial Statement.

RECEIPTS FOR SCHOOLS.

Annual grant	$3,380 50
Amount from state school fund	355 52
Amount from city of Boston	165 80
Amount from sale of books and supplies	12 07
Amount for sale of old lumber	2 50
Total avails	$3,916 39

EXPENDITURES FOR SCHOOLS.

Paid town of Medway, high school tuition	$ 80 00
D. Henry Whipple, superintendent and principal	900 00
Miss Mabel S. Calef, assistant	167 40
Miss Deborah A. Wiggin, assistant	152 00
Miss Ida G. Morrill, room 2	124 80
Miss Fannie P. Mathes, room 2	152 00
Miss Susie O. Newhouse, room 3	327 00
Miss Minna A. Morse, room 4	312 40
Miss Alice E. Fraher, Ellice school	124 80
Miss Anna K. Petersen, Ellice school	152 00
Total	$2,492 40
Transportation :—	
Paid J. C. Thorne	$385 00
Fuel:—	
Paid Thorne Bros., coal	$206 75
E. F. Richardson, wood	2 50
Total	$209 25

Care of houses :—	
Paid S. H. Frink, Adams building	$214 20
Miss Alice E. Fraher, Ellice school	14 50
Miss Anna K. Petersen, Ellice school	17 25
Total	$245 95
Books and supplies :—	
Paid J. L. Hammett Co.	$90 95
Ginn & Co.	19 93
Maynard Merrill & Co.	28 58
Houghton, Mifflin & Co.	12 92
The Beale Press	2 50
Lee & Shepard	7 50
American Book Co.	33 92
Thomas K. Schewell & Co.	5 60
Thompson, Brown & Co.	5 00
Silver, Burdett & Co.	1 50
Prang Educational Co.	18 80
C. H. Morey	8 00
University Publishing Co.	96
Total	$236 16
Incidentals :—	
Paid G. M. Billings	$ 10 65
S. H. Frink, cleaning and extra labor	23 05
John A. Richardson, plastering	31 05
J. L. Stone, labor and stock	4 21
W. D. Parlin, hardware	7 89
Charles Hood	60
W. S. Mitchell, lumber	7 46
E. L. Richardson, sundries and labor	20 48
W. P. Clark, insurance	10 62
B. W. Fuller	2 10
W. H. Upton, repairing clocks	3 00
W. M. Hoar	58
E. F. Richardson, expenses	2 00
Amount carried forward,	$123 69

Amount brought forward,	$123 69
D. H. Whipple, express and sundries . .	14 49
Mrs. H. A. Wiggin, cleaning . . .	1 75
Mrs. Mary Williams	2 40
S. G. Clark, lumber	50 48
W. W. Whiting	70 29
Louis LaCroix	15 22
W. H. Thorne	5 00
E. F. Richardson	20 00
F. E. Cook	20 00
E. L. Richardson	20 00
Total	$343 32

SUMMARY.

Amount expended for teaching . . .	$2,412 40
" " Medway high school .	80 00
" " transportation . .	385 00
" " fuel	209 25
" " care of houses . .	245 95
" " books and supplies . .	236 16
" " incidentals . . .	343 32
Total	$3,912 08
Total avails	$3,916 39
Total expense	3,912 08
Balance unexpended	$4 31

Respectfully submitted,

E. F. Richardson,
Frank E. Cook,
E. L. Richardson,
School Committee.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the School Committee of Millis.

Gentlemen:—

I hereby submit my fourth annual report concerning the public schools of this town.

STATISTICS.

Enrolment of pupils for the year ending Jan. 31, 1899	286
Enrolment of pupils for the year ending Jan. 31, 1900	291
Increase during year	5
Appropriation for schools for the year ending Jan. 31, 1900	$3,380 50
Expenses of school department for the year ending Jan. 31, 1900	$3,912 08
Cost per pupil based on average membership	$18.34
Cost per pupil in Massachusetts for 1899, based on average membership	$25.63
Average membership during year ending Jan. 31, 1900	213.43
Average attendance during year ending Jan. 31, 1900	191.74
Per cent of attendance for the year ending Jan. 31, 1900	89.41
Per cent of attendance during year ending Jan. 31, 1899	89.40

Present membership, Jan. 31, 1900, by grades:—

									High.		
I.	II.	III.	IV.	V.	VI.	VII.	VIII.	IX.	1st.	2nd.	
29.	33.	28.	27.	24.	20.	19.	12.	10=202.	7.	3=10.	Total 212

ADAMS SCHOOL.

Room 1.

Enrolment.		Present Membership.
9 pupils.	High Department. 1st and 2nd years.	10 pupils.
40 pupils.	Grammar Department. Grades 7, 8, 9.	41 pupils.

D. H. Whipple, Principal.

Mabel Stanley Calef, } Assistants.
Deborah Allen Wiggin, }

*Roll of Honor.

Winter Term.—Edith E. Andrews, Annie L. Brackett, Charles H. Brackett, Michael H. Clancy, Levi R. Goodrich, Clarence E. Hood, Clifford E. Hood, E. Carlton Howe, William J. McDonough.

Spring Term.—Edith E. Andrews, John W. Cribbie, Levi R. Goodrich, Clarence E. Hood, Clifford E. Hood, Herbert F. Hood, J. Thomas Toner.

Fall Term.—Edith E. Andrews, Alice E. Carter, Edith L. Clark, Carrie F. Howe, Charles H. Brackett, Charles P. Dinneen, Levi R. Goodrich, Clarence E. Hood, Clifford E. Hood, Herbert F. Hood, E. Carlton Howe, J. Thomas Toner.

Room 2.

Enrolment.	Grades 5 and 6.	Present Membership.
39 pupils.	Ida G. Morrill, Fannie Pendexter Mathes, } Teachers.	35 pupils.

Roll of Honor.

Winter Term.—Ellen M. Irvine, Laura W. Smith, George Howarth, Richard Seidenberg.

Spring Term.—Anna LaCroix, Laura W. Smith, Richard Seidenberg.

Fall Term.—Grace W. Clark, Eloise M. McDonough, Florence M. Shepardson, Laura W. Smith, Florence A. Willard, George Howarth, Joseph McMahan, John H. T. Olsen, Howard A. Payson.

*Neither absence nor tardiness.

Room 3.

Enrolment.	Grades 3 and 4.	Present Membership.
59 pupils.	Susie O. Newhouse, Teacher.	43 pupils.

Roll of honor.

Winter Term.—Annie Cassidy, Sophia E. Dolan, Mary A. Keefe, Ralph D. Goodrich, Dennis H. Murphy.

Spring Term.—Annie Cassidy, Mary A. Keefe, Mary Martinson, Pauline L. A. Martinson, Anna K. Shannon, Edna L. Slayton, Ruth M. Stewart, Mary A. Toner, Ralph D. Goodrich, Dennis H. Murphy, John H. T. Olsen, Oscar Seidenberg.

Fall Term.—Annie Cassidy, Hester M. Frink, Sadie B. Frink, Mary A. Keefe, Margaret Ryan, Edna K. Smith, Mildred C. Thrasher, Rose Wallace, Mary Welch, Enoch H. Carter, Leroy B. Frink, Herbert L. Morrill, Dennis H. Murphy, William O'Donnell, Carl Olsen.

Room 4.

Enrolment.	Grades 1 and 2.	Present Membership.
85 pupils.	Minna A. Morse, Teacher.	46 pupils.

Roll of Honor.

Winter Term.—Eva Cassidy, Hester M. Frink, Ernest R. Goodrich, Louis LaCroix.

Spring Term.—Edith A. Cook, Hester M. Frink, Margaret Ryan, Catherine Sullivan, Millard B. LaCroix, Herbert L. D. Morrill, Arthur S. Wheelock.

Fall Term.—Carlotta Hoeneman, Julia Murphy, Edith F. Richardson, Paul Daniels, Millard B. LaCroix, Harold W. Whiting.

ELLICE SCHOOL.

Enrolment.	Grades 1 to 6.	Present Membership.
56 pupils.	Alice E. Fraher, Anna K. Petersen, } Teachers.	37 pupils.

Roll of Honor.

Winter Term.—Effie A. Cribbie, Elizabeth A. Wiggin, James Kelley, Cyrus E. Sawyer, Rufus C. Sawyer, Wendell Walker.

Spring Term.—Gladys G. Henderson, Henrietta E. Irwin,

Gertrude V. McLaughlin, Harriet A. Parker, Frank Greene, Daniel Hire, George O'Brien, Cyrus E. Sawyer, Rufus C. Sawyer, Carl W. V. Simmons, James Toulson, Wendell Walker, D. Edward Wiggin, William R. Wiggin.

FALL TERM.—Frank Greene.

ROLL OF HONOR—YEAR.

Edith E. Andrews, Annie Cassidy, Hester M. Frink, Mary A. Keefe, Laura W. Smith, Levi R. Goodrich, Clarence E. Hood, Clifford E. Hood, Dennis H. Murphy.

SCHOOL CALENDAR.

*FALL TERM.—September 11, 1899.—December 22.
WINTER TERM.—Grades I.-VI., January 1, 1900—March 9.
High-grammar, January 1, 1900—March 16.
SPRING TERM.—Grades I.-VI., April 2—June 15.
High-grammar, April 2—June 22.

EXISTING CONDITIONS.

Though this year has not been marked by any great changes in the history of the school department, it cannot be said to have been an unimportant one, as no such period in the life of the pupils can possibly be without definite value. It is true we have less to report in comparison with the past two or three years, when new building, new adjustment of grades, and new lines of work were claiming our attention; but it may not be amiss to review certain of our existing conditions in order to establish the claims of the schools upon the town for the ensuing year.

Those from out of town who have visited our schools during the year, have commented upon the general neatness and evidences of care in regard to the buildings and furnishings; if people from other communities find opportunity for favorable mention in this particular, it may be safe for our townspeople to assume that the effort made to provide attractive and modern school accommodations is appreciated by teachers and pupils, since slight indication of another

*Grades I. to VI., Recess, Thanksgiving week.

year's usage is to be found. Special attention has been given to sanitary conditions, and the washing of the floors once a month is an important aid to cleanliness, in fact, as well as in appearance.

Permanent and much needed improvements have been made in both buildings. At the Adams School the piazza at the west side has been well roofed and storm vestibules added to each door, thus giving a protection greatly needed from wind and storm, as well as making a noticeable difference in the temperature of the halls.

At the Ellice School, the patched and insecure plastering upon the ceiling has been entirely replaced, thus improving the appearance of the room and removing an existing element of positive danger from falling plastering. The walls have been re-papered in a lighter tone than has been in use for a number of years, thus brightening the room to no small degree. Additional blackboard space has also been provided.

Increased membership has required special outlay for text-books and supplies, and books unfit for use have been replaced by new ones; in most cases supplies were bought at the scale of prices existing before the advances were made, thus making a noticeable difference from what doubtless will be the case for the next year.

Comment has been made in previous reports upon the frequent changes of teachers in this town, and this year has been no exception,—no less than one half of our corps of instructors having resigned at the close of the spring term. The changes that occurred are as follows: After two years of faithful service, Miss Mabel Stanley Calef closed her labors as assistant in the High-grammar school to pursue her studies in Europe; this vacancy was filled by the election of Miss Deborah Allen Wiggin of Malden, Mass., who like her predecessor, is a graduate of Smith College. Miss Ida G. Morrill, Room 2, Adams School, has been succeeded by Miss Fannie Pendexter Mathes of Dover, N. H.; Miss Alice E. Fraher's resignation from the Ellice School made a vacancy which was filled by the appointment of

Miss Anna K. Petersen of Concord, Mass.; both of these teachers come to us with preparation for their work through graduate courses at the Bridgewater Normal School.

Last year our schools increased to an unusual degree, and this year the total enrolment is yet greater; though the membership at this date has lowered somewhat, the seating capacity at the Adams School is hardly above present requirements. Additional seats have been put into Room 2,—grades V. and VI.,—and in Room 4,—grades I. and II., —it was necessary during the fall term to divide the classes into morning and afternoon attendance owing to the crowded condition; at present the pupils of these grades are again having sessions throughout the day, but as the room can accommodate no increase in membership, it will not be possible to have a class enter in the spring.

School Laws.

In the last report extracts from the new school laws were printed in order that all parents might become familiar with their provisions, and thus avoid, primarily, misunderstandings regarding school attendance; laws concerning child-labor and vaccination have certainly been disregarded in the past,—possibly through ignorance of their nature,—though fewer cases have occurred this year. Parents and guardians who are not aware of their responsibility arising by the absence of their children from school should refer to Chapter 496, Sections 12 and 31, Acts and Resolves of 1898.

Visitors.

A year ago, this topic was commented upon at length with criticism and suggestion, and it is with some hesitancy that reference is yet again made in similar strain. We do not receive the kind of support the schools should have in this direction. A kindly interest made manifest is worth more than an assertion of regard or consideration, and toward the school cannot fail to affect both teacher and pupil.

This lack of personal knowledge of the schools may be interpreted in two ways: an indifference to all that is rep-

resented through the schools, or a positive confidence that "all is well." Neither ground is advisable to stand on for any length of time, and I wish to urge, once more, that the parents and friends of the pupils give some greater share of their time, this year, to an understanding through personal observation,—of our schools.

The parent and the teacher share the responsibility of the training of the child, and the exchange of impressions and observations may prove of lasting benefit to their mutual charge.

Reading.

In the last report, an outline was given of the plan adopted to ensure an acquaintance by the pupils with the standard American writers; that course has been followed and further developed as circumstances would admit, until the scholars—in the upper grades at least,—are now beginning to realize that good reading may be had from among this character of writing, suited to any taste or temperament,—not wantonly perverted. The close relation of the public library to the public school interests has been kept before those pupils old enough to appreciate it, to the advantage not only of the school in general, but the individual in particular. An increase in the material available for supplementary reading is very desirable.

Special attention is given the youngest children in their efforts in this direction, and a trial of the so-called "Ward system" with the beginners in the Adams School has not only given evidence of the merits of this method but has proven of marked value to the pupils in acquiring a vocabulary; as this work may be extended through other grades it is anticipated that an increased fluency of expression will be noticeable as the scholars advance.

Arithmetic.

Particular regard has been given to the cultivation of the power to grasp conditions and comprehend the solution of problems by mental exercises as well as by written work; to this end, new books,—particularly adapted to this

purpose,—have been introduced into some of the grades. In the primary classes, specially prepared blanks for written exercises have been used, mainly with an idea of giving the pupils as much drill in expression as in number combinations.

Geography.

For many years there has been in use in our schools, a series of old wall-maps that long ago outlived their practical value as an aid to the study of modern political geography. This year, we have granted them an honorable discharge from any further responsibility in the class-room, and we are now supplied with a complete set of modern maps, that fill an important place in the work of this subject.

Outline wall-maps have also been provided for use in testing or reviewing the knowledge gained of political or physical features; such maps are well adapted for work in history, and will be so used. Maps for the use of classes in the high school work are being furnished for use in history, as the geographical setting should not be separated from the historical incident.

Drawing.

The work in this subject has assumed an important position in the school courses of today and much attention has been given its development in all related lines. After careful consideration, Prang's new course has recently been adopted, and will become the basis of the study of form, representation, construction, and decoration, as well as giving an insight into some of the essentials of art as found in the picture or statue. The continued use of small pictures along various lines, among all grades, has been an aid to interest as well as to an understanding of the subject.

School-room Decoration.

Much less has been done for the decoration of the walls of school-rooms this year than was accomplished a year ago, when we were very fortunate in being presented with a

generous collection of pictures and casts; it is hoped, however, that more will be done before the year is over.

From the proceeds of an entertainment given by the Grange in behalf of the school, the walls of the rooms on the second floor at the Adams School were tinted in artistic colorings, adding much to the effectiveness of the pictures, but what is of greater value, softening the light in the rooms and thereby relieving the glare from the formerly white walls. If present plans can be carried out, the other rooms of the building will be similarly treated before the schools close in June, and that without expense to the school department.

Suggestion.

Owing to the unsatisfactory results in heating the Ellice School from a stove at one side of the room, I wish to call your attention to the advisability of providing some other and more desirable means of heating that building. As it now is, the front of the room is thoroughly overheated while at the rear—on cold days—it is not up to the commonly accepted temperature for comfort in sitting. Since the stove is practically worn out, I wish to recommend to your consideration, the purchase of a furnace to be used in place of it; with registers at the sides and rear of the room, much less time would be required to heat the room, and it could be more easily maintained at an even temperature than is now possible; the smaller room could also be heated for the noon use of the children without an additional fire.

It would be desirable to have steam-pipes put into the halls at the Adams School and thus relieve the marked difference in temperature between the schoolrooms and the halls.

From present indications, it is probable that the different rooms at the Adams School will be overcrowded next fall; especially will this be true of the High-grammar School and Room 2, so that consideration of means to meet the needs at that time will be necessary; by a re-adjustment of grades, it may be possible to keep the present membership

within existing accommodations, but the entering class would have to be provided for, probably by opening another school, which could be done, using Grange Hall as formerly. While not making any recommendation at this time, it being rather early for positive statement, this possibility should have consideration in making the appropriation for the school department for the ensuing year.

It is a matter for serious reflection that the work of our schools should be so greatly affected by constant changing of teachers, who for the most part resign to accept positions offering better salary; to be sure, that is an unquestionable privilege, and in many cases a necessity, when the expense of securing the educational preparation required by statute law is taken into account. At times, it would be of positive value to the schools, were the appropriation for this department sufficient to warrant a rise in salary and thereby retain the services of a good teacher, when small increase might do so.

Last year, the average salary of women teachers in the state was $51.44; in Norfolk county, $49.68; in Millis, $35.67. Though we are not satisfied with preparation or work below the average, we expect to pay much less than that for what we get, as this comparison of figures will show.

While well aware of the need of economy, may it not be mistaken economy to have our range of salary such that we must constantly be breaking in new teachers; in other words, practically paying our present amounts to maintain training-schools, as the history of some rooms might easily suggest?

I wish to recommend that such appropriation for the public schools be established as to warrant a definite scale of wages with maximun yet above what we are able to pay at present, for continued and faithful service.

Conclusion.

Acknowledgement of the continued cordiality and earnestness of support granted me alike by committee and teachers is but a part of the sense of obligation I feel to

those with whom I am associated for the welfare of the youth of this town. A responsibility rests upon us that we cannot lightly assume nor carelessly execute if our duty is to be honestly performed; the widespread extent of the results of our efforts should keep us alive to the necessity for that determination of purpose that will insure the best of our activity for the end and aim of all true education.

Respectfully submitted,

D. H. Whipple,
Superintendent of Schools.

Millis, February 1, 1900.

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